

In the Claims

1. (Original) Optical alignment system comprising an optical board connector with a ferrule assembly terminating a plurality of optical fibres and a circuit board comprising a cavity for at least one embedded device, said circuit board comprising first positioning elements characterized in that said circuit board comprises a plate exposing said cavity and having an accurate position with respect to said cavity and said ferrule assembly comprises second positioning elements adapted to cooperate with said first positioning elements made available by said plate to align said terminated optical fibres and said embedded device.
2. (Original) Optical alignment system according to claim 1, wherein said first positioning elements are provided as separate elements on or within said circuit board.
3. (Original) Optical alignment system according to claim 2, wherein said plate comprises holes adapted to cooperate with said first positioning elements and to position said plate with respect to said cavity.
4. (Original) Optical alignment system according to claim 1, wherein said plate comprises said first positioning means alignment pins or holes.
5. (Original) Optical alignment system according to claim 4, wherein said alignment pins protrude into said circuit board.
6. (Currently Amended) Optical alignment system according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein said plurality of optical fibres constitutes a high

density array and said second positioning elements comprise three alignment pins or holes positioned with respect to the centre (G) of said array.

7. (Currently Amended) Optical alignment system according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein said circuit board comprises a housing for said embedded device adapted to pre-position said optical board connector.

8. (Currently Amended) Optical alignment system according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein said ferrule assembly is movably contained by said optical board connector.

9. (Currently Amended) Optical alignment system according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein said ferrule assembly comprises a ferrule plate protruding from said board connector within said cavity.

10. (Currently Amended) Optical alignment system according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein said plurality of optical fibres constitutes a two-dimensional array of optical fibres.

11. (Currently Amended) Optical alignment system according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein said ferrule assembly comprises holes for terminating said optical fibres, said holes comprising at least one substantially straight edge.

12. (Original) Optical alignment system comprising an optical board connector with a ferrule assembly terminating a plurality of optical fibres and a circuit board comprising a cavity for at least one embedded device, said circuit board comprising first positioning elements, wherein said ferrule assembly is movably contained by said optical board connector and comprises second positioning elements adapted to cooperate with said first

positioning elements to align said terminated optical fibres and said embedded device.

13. (Currently Amended) Ferrule assembly comprising second positioning elements for use in a system according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ 1.

14. (Currently Amended) Plate adapted to make available first positioning elements for use in a system according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ 1.

15. (Original) Method for aligning an optical board connector with terminated optical fibres and a circuit board comprising first positioning elements and a cavity for at least one embedded device comprising the steps of:

- providing a plate with an opening exposing said embedded device and positioning said plate with respect to said cavity such that said first positioning elements remain available;
- positioning said board connector onto said plate and aligning said optical fibres with said embedded device by having second positioning elements of said board connector cooperating with said first positioning elements.